

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/986,378

Examiner

Sajeda Muhebbullah

Applicant(s)

SANDSTROM ET AL.

Art Unit

2174

-- **Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cov r sheet with th correspondenc address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/03/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20060518.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT and REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Michael Mutter on May 18, 2006.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 is amended as follows:

1. A filing appliance which facilitates an interaction with a computer system, comprising:
a plurality of tangible sheets associated with a position coding pattern;
at least one first input field accepting markings from a drawing device which digitally records information entered in the first input field;
a second input field accepting descriptive information characterizing the digitally recorded information, wherein the descriptive information associates the filing appliance with an information object; and
an initiation icon which, upon activation by the drawing device, signals the computer system to create an information object which is identified based upon the descriptive information entered in the second input field[.];
a number of appearance icons, a detection of an appearance icon by means of said drawing device being adapted to give the digitally recorded information a visual property.

Claim 4 is amended as follows:

4. The filing appliance according to claim 1, wherein sheets in at least a subset of said plurality of sheets are provided with a position-coding pattern so that information filled in on a sheet in the subset by said drawing device is recordable as a digital graphical input[, the filing appliance comprising a number of appearance icons, a detection of an appearance icon by means of said drawing device being adapted to give the digital graphical input a visual property].

Claim 5 is amended as follows:

5. The filing appliance according to claim [4]1, wherein said visual property relates at least to stroke weight.

Claim 6 is amended as follows:

6. The filing appliance according to claim [4]1 or 5, wherein said visual property relates at least to line color.

Claim 7 is amended as follows:

7. The filing [apparatus]appliance according to claim 1, which comprises an address field provided with a position-coding pattern, and an order icon, a detection of the order icon by said drawing device being adapted to initiate an operation in the computer system which operation performs an order of another filing appliance to be delivered to the address entered in the address field.

Claim 8 is amended as follows:

8. [The]A filing appliance [according to claim 1,]which facilitates an interaction with a computer system, comprising:
a plurality of tangible sheets associated with a position coding pattern;

Art Unit: 2174

at least one first input field accepting markings from a drawing device which digitally records information entered in the first input field;

a second input field accepting descriptive information characterizing the digitally recorded information, wherein the descriptive information associates the filing appliance with an information object; and

an initiation icon which, upon activation by the drawing device, signals the computer system to create an information object which is identified based upon the descriptive information entered in the second input field; [wherein at least two sheets in a subset of said plurality of sheets are provided with a position-coding pattern, so that information filled in on a sheet in the subset can be recorded by said drawing device as digital graphical inputs,]and

a send icon provided with a position-coding pattern, a detection of the send icon by means of the drawing device initiating an operation in the computer system, in which operation graphical inputs entered on the sheet are transferred to the computer system[and optionally on to an external computer system].

Claim 9 is amended as follows:

9. The filing appliance according to claim [1]8, wherein said information object comprises a table in a database.

Claim 10 is amended as follows:

10. The filing appliance according to claim [1]8, wherein said information object comprises a file.

Claim 11 is amended as follows:

11. The filing appliance according to claim [1]8, further comprising an archiving icon, detection of the archiving icon by the drawing device being adapted to initiate an operation wherein position information corresponding to strokes of the drawing device, which strokes are

generated after a reference time point, is transmitted from the drawing device to the computer system.

Claim 12 is amended as follows:

12. A system for information management, comprising:

a drawing device adapted to record a position coding pattern;

a computer system communicatively coupled with the drawing device; and

a filing appliance which further comprises,

a plurality of tangible sheets associated with the position coding pattern,

at least one first input field accepting markings from the drawing device which digitally records information entered in the first input field,

a second input field accepting descriptive information characterizing the digitally recorded information, wherein the descriptive information associates the filing appliance with an information object, and

an initiation icon which, upon activation by the drawing device signals the computer system to create an information object which is identified based upon the descriptive information entered in the second input field;

the system including structure associated at least in part with the drawing device for initiating sending of the digitally recorded information from said drawing device to the computer system.

Claim 22 is amended as follows:

22. A filing device comprising:

a holder for holding a plurality of tangible sheets;

at least one first input field accepting markings from a drawing device which digitally records information entered in the first input field;

a second input field accepting descriptive information characterizing the digitally recorded information, wherein the descriptive information associates the filing appliance with an information object; and

an initiation icon which upon activation by the drawing device, signals the computer system to create an information object identified based upon the descriptive information entered

in the second input field; and

a send icon provided with a position-coding pattern, a detection of the send icon by means of the drawing device initiating an operation in the computer system, in which operation graphical inputs entered on the sheet are transferred to the computer system.

Claim 27 is added as follows:

27. The filing appliance according to claim 8, wherein at least two sheets in a subset of said plurality of sheets are provided with a position-coding pattern, so that information filled in on a sheet in the subset can be recorded by said drawing device as digital graphical inputs.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Borgstrom teaches a filing appliance comprising means for holding a plurality of sheets wherein at least one input field is provided with a position-coding pattern (col.3, lines 5-10) and is adapted to be filled in by a drawing device which records, using said position-coding pattern, positions in the input field in order to digitally record information entered in the input field (col.4, lines 28-35), and an initiation icon is provided, wherein a detection of the initiation icon by the drawing device is adapted to initiate an operation in a computer system communicating with the drawing device (col.4, lines 47-49), in which operation an information object is created, which is identifiable at least by means of information entered in the input field (col.7, lines 60-63).

However, Borgstrom does not teach a second input field accepting descriptive information characterizing the digitally recorded information, wherein the descriptive information associates the filing appliance with an information object and is identified based upon the descriptive information entered in the second input field as recited in claims 1, 8, and 12, and 22. In addition, Borgstrom does not teach wherein position information generated after

Art Unit: 2174

said time point t_{act} is to be inserted in the second information object, wherein the second information object is related to a second filing appliance, further wherein the second information object resides within the computer system and is associated with at least one of the first application and a second application, and further wherein the position information comprises activation information generated at the time point t_{act} , the activation information being indicative of an activation of the second filing appliance as recited in claims 18 and 25. Therefore, neither Borgstrom alone, or in combination with Sklarew or Eichstaedt teach or suggest the claimed limitations as recited in the independent claims 1, 8, 12, 18, 22, and 25.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Communications

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sajeda Muhebbullah whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4065**. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday/Thursday and alt. Mondays from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (571) 272-4063.

The central fax number for the organization where correspondence for this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sajeda Muhebbullah
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2174